

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)

Kentucky Core Content Test

Content Area Indexes

1999 to 2003

October 7, 2003

Page 1

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Technical considerations in using
the October 7, 2003 Release of
Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS)
Kentucky Core Content Test
Content Area Indexes
1999 to 2003

NOTE: The information contained on the files for the Accountability Cycle 2003, School and District Content Area Indexes is embargoed from release until Noon EDT on October 7, 2003.

GENERAL INFORMATION and CHANGES

This document is best viewed using a non-proportional font like Courier New. The documentation is designed to be viewed and printed in a Portrait aspect using 8pt text.

The information provided is "PRELIMINARY". Schools are reviewing student results and will have the opportunity to correct discrepancies.

The files and reports provide results for Schools and Districts. Summary records for the State is provided at the end of the files.

Joint Schools are school(s) combined with another school for accountability purposes because the school does not contain both a 4th and 5th grade or both a 7th and 8th grade. Each Joint School has a combined record and an individual school record for the schools that comprise the Joint School. The file layouts contain non-reported control fields to assist in sorting, merging and reporting of the Joint Schools.

CONTENTS

This file contains several sections describing the Kentucky Core Content Test, a component of the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System. The files show School, District and State Academic Index results by content area for years 1998-1999 to 2002-2003.

Section headings follow:

1. CHANGES IN SCHOOL SCORES
2. MODEL LAB SCHOOLS
3. SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN DATA SUMMARY
4. REGIONAL AND STATE SUMMARY DATA
5. SCHOOLS WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY GRADES
6. REPORT PRINT FILES
7. DATABASE FILES
8. TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

1. CHANGES IN SCHOOL DATA

The results reflect the performance of schools and districts starting with the Spring 1999 test. Although some new schools have been opened, and other schools have closed, results are reported only for schools that were open at the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)

Kentucky Core Content Test

Content Area Indexes

1999 to 2003

October 7, 2003

Page 2

2. MODEL LAB SCHOOLS

MODEL LAB ELEMENTARY, MODEL LAB MIDDLE SCHOOL, and MODEL LAB HIGH SCHOOL are now included in Madison County totals. The Model Lab schools have a special relationship with Eastern Kentucky University. However, since these schools are technically public schools under the governance of the Madison County Board of Education, the schools are included within the accountability system and school indices are therefore calculated. The schools codes are:

MODEL LAB ELEMENTARY (365450)

MODEL LAB MIDDLE SCHOOL (365455)

MODEL LAB HIGH SCHOOL (365460)

3. SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN DATA SUMMARY

This data summary includes only schools that are under the governance of a local board of education. Excluded from this summary are the federally dependent schools at Fort Knox and Fort Campbell and the two schools operated by the State Department of Education, the Kentucky School for the Deaf and the Kentucky School for the Blind.

4. REGIONAL AND STATE SUMMARY DATA

Region data is not reported. State data is treated as if the individual units are aggregated or summed as is done with individual schools or districts. Index calculations are based on this aggregation of the data. For example, the reading index for the state is no longer the weighted average of the schools from within Kentucky, but a calculation based on the total number of students (converted to percents). As is the case for a typical school or district, the reading index would be the sum of:

```
0 * percent Novice non-performance +
13 * percent Novice medium +
26 * percent Novice high +
40 * percent Apprentice low +
60 * percent Apprentice medium +
80 * percent Apprentice high +
100 * percent Proficient +
140 * percent Distinguished.
```

5. SCHOOLS WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY GRADES

Some schools have no grade at which accountability assessment occurs (grades End of Primary {EP or 3}, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12). Schools with no accountability grade will share the accountability results of the schools into which they promote their students. These schools are not included on the printed report or on the databases. National Norm Referenced Test scores are included in the calculations for the Long-Term Accountability model and are reflected in schools that include grades EP(3), 6 or 9.

6. REPORT PRINT FILES

The print files are reported in Microsoft Word (DOC), Rich Text Format (RTF) and Portable Document Format (PDF). The files are created using Microsoft Word 2000. To view the document, change to a landscape-viewing format and use a non-proportional font like Courier New, size 8. You may have to make other formatting changes as well including setting the line size to a 8 point.

The DOC and RTF files contain field header and footer information. Unfortunately, word processors from different manufactures running on different computer platforms are not 100% compatible.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)

Kentucky Core Content Test

Content Area Indexes

1999 to 2003

October 7, 2003

Page 3

7. DATABASE FILES

Database files have been developed for use with commercial database or spreadsheet software that recognizes MS-EXCEL (XLS) and Database format (DBF). Follow the protocol for your specific software to read and manipulate these files. We have observed that commercial database and spreadsheet software handle variables containing "null" or "missing" data differently. Microsoft Excel and Access, for example, display a string of nine's with a zero in the low order digit.

The EXCEL files {PRS0305.xls (grades 4/5), PRS0308.xls (grades 7/8), and PRS0312.xls (grades 10/11/12)} and the Data Base files {PRS0305.dbf (grades 4/5), PRS0308.dbf (grades 7/8), and PRS0312.dbf (grades 10/11/12)} have the same format.

FILE

DESCRIPTION

PRS03gg.XLS
PRS03gg.DBF

This file contains content area academic indexes for the years Spring 1999, Spring 2000, Spring 2001, Spring 2002 and Spring 2003.

Field Name Field Description

CODE The first three characters are the district number assigned by the Department of Education in data operations. The last three characters are the school building number. The combined record for Joint schools ends in AAA, AAB, AAC, etc. District records have blanks in positions 4 through 6. The state record is assigned a code of 999.

REGION Blank.

DISTNAME District name - all characters are uppercase.

SCHNAME School name = Characters are upper and lower case.

GRADE This field contains the accountability grades within the school.
Values in the field are (left justified):
 "04 " - grade 4 (School is part of a joint school).
 "05 " - grades 5 (School is part of a joint school).
 "04/05" - grades 4/5
 "07 " - grades 7 (School is part of a joint school).
 "08 " - grades 8 (School is part of a joint school).
 "07/08" - grades 7/8
 "10-12" - grades 10/11/12.

REC_TYPE Indicator that identifies the type of record. Values are:
 "SC" = School
 "DT" = District
 "ST" = State

SPLT_SCH Joint School indicator.
Values are:
 R = Regular School
 A = Joint School
Variable is blank in district, region, and state records.

SPLC_SCH Special (School) code assigned to Joint School.
Values are:
 RRR = Regular School
 AAA = First Joint school in district
 AAB = Second Joint school in district
 AAC = Third Joint school in district
 etc.
Variable is blank in district and state records.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)

Kentucky Core Content Test

Content Area Indexes

1999 to 2003

October 7, 2003

Page 4

SPLT_TYP	Type of Joint School. Values are: R = Regular School A = Joint school - combined school record. Contains result information for the schools that are joined. B = Joint school - school component record. Identifies schools that are part of the joint school. Record contains code, school name grade. Accountability data is BLANK. Variable is blank in district, region and state records.
NOTE	Messages indicating school status. Possible messages are: Blank = no messages; school is normal. a = School's service area changed. The school is held accountable through the district accountability scores. c = School is accountable though school's scores and district non-academic data for the baseline years. d = School is a reconfigured. The school is held accountable through school results and district growth line, district assistance line, and district novice reduction rate. e = Reconfigured School or New School in 2002-2003 school year. The school's baseline index is the two-year average of the school's 2002-2001 and 2001-2002 scores but is computed with the district's 2002-2001 and 2001-2002 non-academic index at the corresponding grade level. The goal line, assistance line and novice reduction rate are calculated from the school's scores and district non-academic data for the baseline years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. f = Reconfigured School that is using the District Baseline (goal) for Accountability. School's baseline index, goal line, assistance line and novice reduction rate are based on district scores at the high school level. Due to incomplete non-academic data, district non-academic data are used to calculate the school's non-academic index. This is a special case for new high schools that do not have all grades in the prior year. r = School is considered a reconfigured school and the student population is reconstituted for calculation of accountability scores. s = Joint school. School(s) have been combined with another school for accountability purposes because the school does not contain both a 4th and 5th grade or both a 7th and 8th grade. w = State Board approved school configuration waiver for calculation of accountability scores. z = School scores under review.
	* _____ SPRING 1999 Academic Indices _____ *
IDX99_RD	Reading Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX99_MA	Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX99_SC	Science Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX99_SS	Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX99_AH	Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX99_PL	Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX99_WR	Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio Academic Index) - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
IDX_AI99	Total Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 5.1.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)

Kentucky Core Content Test

Content Area Indexes

1999 to 2003

October 7, 2003

Page 5

* _____ SPRING 2000 Academic Indices _____ *

IDX00_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX00_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX00_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX00_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX00_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX00_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX00_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
IDX_AI00 Total Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 5.1.

* _____ SPRING 2001 Academic Indices _____ *

IDX01_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX01_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX01_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX01_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX01_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX01_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX01_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
IDX_AI01 Total Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 5.1.

* _____ SPRING 2002 Academic Indices _____ *

IDX02_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX02_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX02_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX02_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX02_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX02_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX02_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
IDX_AI02 Total Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 5.1.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)

Kentucky Core Content Test

Content Area Indexes

1999 to 2003

October 7, 2003

Page 6

* _____ SPRING 2003 Academic Indices _____ *

IDX03_RD	Reading Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX03_MA	Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX03_SC	Science Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX03_SS	Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX03_AH	Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX03_PL	Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX03_WR	Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
IDX_AI03	Total Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 5.1.

8. TECHNICAL QUESTIONS.

Technical questions about the data format may be addressed to:

Roger W. Ervin
Office of Assessment and Accountability,
Division of Assessment Implementation

Telephone: (502) 564-4394
FAX: (502) 564-7749
Internet mail: rervin@kde.state.ky.us